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Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, April 27, 1917, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1331 Connecticut Avenue. April 27, 1917. Darlingest Boysie,

No letter, but I love you. Been working like a slave all day, and now Elbert Fortesque, Lathrop, Faison, McCurdy, dine here, and I hope to get to bed early.

Clime came here, says there is no reason why you should return. Is there?

It is so cold here that I think it must be terrible with you, but if you enjoy it I will wait just a little while. I did want you and I do want you to come back, it seems such a siege from April to December and I just wish you were here now to meet the foreigners and cheer us all up. Everybody is in the lowest depth of pessimism. All say we are in for a frightful time. Somebody says that really the mortality among the rank and file of the armies is lower than in normal times, they are so well taken care of, it is the officers that are lost. The privates are kept in more sanitary condition than at home and when sounded get the best care, also when ill, while if they were at home they would live in bad surroundings and get no care when ill. This of course does not apply to officers.

Have had barely time to read papers, but I love you and what in all the world are you doing not having opened your trunk before for change of clothing? The Vogue was for Kathleen.

Much love, Mabel.